Amendments to the Claims:

Applicants specifically request non-entry of the amendments requested in the response under 37 CFR 1.116 filed August 19, 2003. Further, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

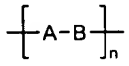
1. (Original) A method comprising reacting

a) at least one diacidic monomer, comprising about 1 to 100 mole % of at least one light-absorbing monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 300 nm and about 1200 nm and 99-0 mole % of a non-light absorbing monomer which does not absorb significant light at wavelengths above 300 nm or has a light absorption maximum below 300 nm, with

b) an organic compound having the formula

$$X\text{-}B\text{-}X_1$$

wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L-C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1\text{-}4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; X and X_1 are reactive groups and are independently selected from the group consisting of bromine, iodine and R-SO_2O; wherein R is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl; C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with chlorine, fluorine, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio or C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl; C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl, wherein said reaction is carried out in a solvent in the presence of a base to form a light absorbing polymeric composition having the formula



wherein B is as defined above, n is at least 2 and A comprises the residue of said diacidic monomer.

2. (Original) The process of claim 1 where said light-absorbing monomers have the formula

H-Y-H

wherein H represents an acidic hydrogen atom; Y is a divalent light-absorbing moiety selected from the group consisting of chromophoric classes of azo, disazo, triazo, bis-azo, methine, arylidene, polymethine, azo-methine, azamethine, anthraquinone, anthrapyridone (3H-dibenz[f,ij]isoquinoline-2,7-dione, nitroarylamines anthrapyridine (7H-dibenz[f,ij]isoquinoline-7-one, phthaloylphenothiazine (14H-naphth[2,3-a]phenothiazine-8,13-dione, benzanthrone (7H(de)anthracene-7-one), anthrapyrimidine (7H-benzo[e]perimidine-7-one), anthrapyrazole, anthraisothiazole, triphenodioxazine, thiaxanthene-9-one, fluorindine (5,12-dihydroquinoxaline [2,3-b]phenazine, quinophthalone, phthalocyanine, metal phthalocyanine, naphthalocyanine, metal naphthalocyanine, nickel dithiolenes, squarylium compounds, croconium compounds, coumarin (2H-1-benzopyran-2-one), coumarin imine (2H-1-benzopyran-2-imine), perinone, benzodifuran, phthaloylacridone, phthaloylphenoxazine (14H-naphtho[2,3-a]phenoxazine-8,13-done, phthaloylacridone (13H-naphtho[2,3-c] acridine-5,8,14-trione), anthraquinonethioxanthane (8H-naphtho[2,3-c]thioxanthene-5,8,13-trione, anthrapyridazone, pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole, indigo, thioindigo, quinoline, xanthene, acridine, azine, cyanine, oxazine, 1,4 and 1,5-naphthoquinones, 2,5-diarylaminoterephthalic acids and esters, pyromellitic acid dimide, naphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3,4,9,10-perylenetetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3-aryl-2,5-dioxypyrroline, 3-aryl-5-dicyanomethylene-2-oxopyrroline, arylisoindoline, hydroxybenzophenone, benoztriazole, naphthotriazole, diminoisoindoline, naphthopyran (3H-naphtho[2,1-6]pyran-3-one and 3-imine, phthalimides, 2-arylbenzazoles, carbostyryls, 1,2-diarylethenes, 2,5-diarylthiophenes, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles, triazines, 2,5-diarylfurans, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-thiadiazoles, thiophenes, 1,3-diphenyl-2-pyrazolines, 2-arylbenzofurans, 2,6-diphenylbenzofurans, quinolines, quinoxalines, 3,4-diarylfuanones, distyrylarenes, benzanthrones, polyarenes and naphthalimides.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the hydrogen atoms of said formula H-Y-H are independently bonded to an oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen atom which is a part of the light absorbing moiety Y and which in combination provides two acidic functional groups.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said acidic functional groups have pKa values of from about 1.5 to about 12.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said acidic functional groups are independently selected from the group consising of $-CO_2H$, -SH, -OH attached to an aromatic ring, -CONHCO-, $-SO_2$-NH-CO-, $-SO_2$-NH-SO_2-, 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl-, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl, pyrazolyl, $-SO_2H$ attached to aromatic ring, $-NHSO_2R_5$ and-SO_2NHR_5, wherein R_5 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl and C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with at least one group selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio and C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said non light-absorbing monomers have the formula

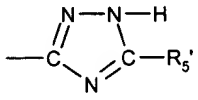
$$H\text{-}Y_1\text{-}H$$

wherein H represents an acidic hydrogen atom; Y_1 is a divalent moiety selected from the group consisting of-O_2C-R_1-CO_2- and-O-R_2-O- and-O_2C-R_3-O-, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, 1-4-cyclohexylene, arylene, arylene-O-arylene, arylene-SO_2-arylene, arylene-S-arylene, and C_1-C_4 alkylene-O- C_1-C_4 alkylene; wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of arylene, arylene-O-arylene, arylene-S-arylene, arylene-SO_2-arylene, phenylene-phenylene, and phenylene-$C(R_4)_2$-phenylene; wherein R_4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_1-C_4 alkyl; wherein R_3 is selected from arylene.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said polymeric composition is linear.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said diacidic monomers have pK_a values of about 12 or below.

9. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein H-Y-H includes a moiety selected from the group consisting of carboxy groups attached to an aromatic ring carbon or aliphatic carbon, hydroxy groups attached to an unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or naphthyl radical, -CO-NHCO- groups attached to an aromatic ring to provide an imide and 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-yl group having the formula



wherein R_5' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl and aryl.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 where n is between about 2 and about 25.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein n is between about 3 and about 15.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said base is selected from the group consising of alkali metal carbonates, alkali metal bicarbonates and tertiary amines, aromatic nitrogen bases, bicyclic nitrogen containing bases having non-hindered electron pairs and mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12 wherein said base is selected from the group consisting of triethylamine, tri-n-butylamine, N-methylpiperidine, N,N'-dimethylpiperazine, N-methylmorpholine and N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine, pyridines, picolines, quinolines, isoquinolines, N-alkylpyrroles, N-alkylimidazoles, 1,8-diazabicyclo[5,4,0]undec-7-ene (DBU), 1,5-diazabicylco[4,3,0]non-5-ene (DBN) and 1,4-diazadicyclo[2,2,2]octane and mixtures thereof.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said solvent is one or more aprotic polar solvents.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-N-phenyl formamide, dimethylsulfoxide, aliphatic nitriles, sulfolane,

hexamethyl phosphoramide, water, alcohols, ketones pyridine and ether-alcohols and mixtures thereof.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylacetamide, N,N-dimethylformamide, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-methyl-N-phenyl formamide, dimethylsulfoxide, aliphatic nitriles, sulfolane and hexamethyl phosphoramide and mixtures thereof.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said reacting is conducted at a temperature between about 75°C and about 125°C.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic compound having the formula

$$X\text{-}B\text{-}X_1$$

is selected from the group consisting of disulfonate compounds where X and X_1 are both a sulfonate ester of the formula-OSO_2R, wherein R is selected from C_1-C_4 alkyl, phenyl or p-methylphenyl and wherein B is selected from C_2-C_6 alkylene, -CH_2-1,4-cyclohexylene-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2(O\ CH_2CH_2)_{1\text{-}4}$ and-CH_2CH_2O-1,4-phenylene-O-CH_2CH_2-.

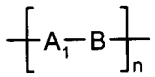
19. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein said B moiety of the organic compound having the formula X-B-X_1 is selected from the group consisting of-CH_2CH_2-, -$CH_2CH(CH_3)CH_2$-, -$CH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2$-, -$(CH_2)_4$-, -$(CH_2)_6$-, -$CH_2CH_2OCH_2CH_2$- and-CH_2-1,4-cyclohexylene-CH_2-.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said organic compound having the formula X-B-X_1 is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-ethandiol, dimethanesulfonate; 1,2-ethanediol bis(4-methylbenzenesulfonate); 1,4 butanediol, dimethane sulfonate; 1,6-hexanediol, dimethanesulfonate; 1,3-propanediol,2,2-dimethyl-, dimethanesulfonate; 1,4-cyclohexanedimethanol, dimethanesulfonate; 1,1,3,3-tetramethylcyclobutanediol, dimethanesulfonate, and ethanol 2,2'-oxybis-dimethanesulfonate.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein A of said light absorbing polymeric composition comprises 100 mole% of said light-absorbing monomer.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said diacidic light absorbing monomer has a light absorption maximum between about 300 nm and about 1200 nm and is present in said light absorbing polymeric composition in an amount at least about 50% by weight %.

23. (Currently amended) A <u>colored</u> light absorbing composition having the formula

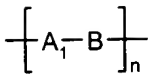


wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition.

24. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer blended with at least one <u>colored</u> light absorbing linear polymeric composition of claim 23.

25. (Original) The composition of claim 24 wherein said thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyesters, polyolefins, polyamides, polyimides, polyvinyl chloride, polyurethanes, polycarbonates, cellulose esters, polyacrylates, polyvinylesters, polyester-amides, polystyrene, polyacrylonitrile-butadiene- styrene, polystyrene-acrylonitrile and mixtures and blends thereof.

26. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ <u>A light absorbing composition having the formula</u>



wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having the structure

H-Y-H

wherein H represents an acidic hydrogen atom and Y is a divalent light-absorbing moiety selected from the chromophoric classes consisting of azo, disazo, triazo, bis-azo, methine, arylidene, polymethine, azo-methine, azamethine, anthraquinone, anthrapyridone (3H-dibenz[f,ij] isoquinoline-2,7-dione, nitroarylamines anthrapyridine (7H-dibenz[f,ij]isoquinoline-7-one, phthaloylphenothiazine (14H-naphth[2,3-a]phenothiazine-8,13-dione, benzanthrone (7H(de)anthracene-7-one), anthrapyrimidine (7H-benzo[e]perimidine-7-one), anthrapyrazole, anthraisothiazole, triphenodioxazine, thiaxanthene-9-one, fluorindine (5,12-dihydroquinoxaline [2,3-b]phenazine, quinophthalone, phthalocyanine, metal phthalocyanine, naphthalocyanine, metal naphthalocyanine, nickel dithiolenes, squarylium compounds, croconium compounds, coumarin (2H-1-benzopyran-2-one), coumarin imine (2H-1-benzopyran-2-imine), perinone, benzodifuran, phthaloylacridone, phthaloylphenoxazine (14H-naphtho[2,3-a]phenoxazine-8,13-done, phthaloylacridone (13H-naphtho[2,3-c] acridine-5,8,14-trione), anthraquinonethioxanthane (8H-naphtho[2,3-c]thioxanthene-5,8,13-trione, anthrapyridazone, pyrrolo[3,4-c]pyrrole, indigo, thioindigo, quinoline, xanthene, acridine, azine, cyanines, oxazine, 1,4 and 1,5-naphthoquinones, 2,5-diarylaminoterephthalic acids and esters, pyromellitic acid dimide, naphthalene-1,4,5,8-tetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3,4,9,10-perylenetetracarboxylic acid diimide, 3-aryl-2,5-dioxypyrroline, 3-aryl-5-dicyanomethylene-2-oxopyrroline, arylisoindoline, hydroxybenzophenone, benoztriazole, naphthotriazole, diminoisoindoline, naphthopyran (3H-naphtho[2,1-6]pyran-3-one and 3-imine, phthalimides, 2-arylbenzazoles,

carbostyryls, 1,2-diarylethenes, 2,5-diarylthiophenes, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-oxadiazoles, triazines, 2,5-diarylfurans, 2,5-diaryl-1,3,4-thiadiazoles, thiophenes, 1,3-diphenyl-2-pyrazolines, 2-arylbenzofurans, 2,6-diphenylbenzofurans, quinolines, quinoxalines, 3,4-diarylfuanones, distyrylarenes, benzanthrones, polyarenes and naphthalimides.

27. Canceled.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~light absorbing linear polymeric~~ composition of ~~Claim~~ claim 25 wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having at least one acidic group other than carboxy and having a light absorption maximum between about ~~300~~ 325 nm and about ~~1200~~ 1100 nm and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene-C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L-C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L-C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2.

29. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two carboxy groups as acidic functional groups.

30. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio groups as acidic functional groups.

31. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one carboxy and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group as acidic functional groups.

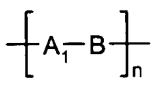
32. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two hydroxy groups attached to aromatic ring(s).

33. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one carboxy group.

34. (Original) The process of claim 2 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group.

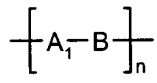
35. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two carboxy groups as acidic functional groups.

36. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, $-SO_2$-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, $-SO_2N(C_1$-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio groups as acidic functional groups.

37. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula

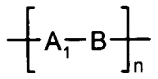


wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, $-SO_2$-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, $-SO_2N(C_1$-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about

50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one carboxy and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group as acidic functional groups.

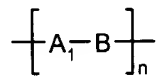
38. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two hydroxy groups attached to aromatic ring(s).

39. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one carboxy group.

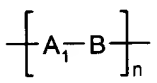
40. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein

n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises one imide group and one 1(H)-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylthio group.

41. (Currently amended) ~~The composition of claim 23~~ A light absorbing composition having the formula



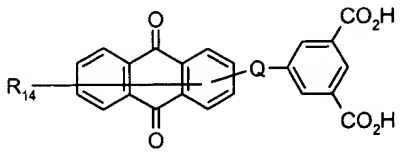
wherein A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic monomer having a light absorption maximum between about 325 nm and about 1100 nm, and wherein B is a divalent organic radical selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3- C_8-cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, and C_2- C_4-alkylene-L-arylene-L- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-(L- C_2-C_4 alkylene)$_{1-4}$, wherein L is a linking group selected from-O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(aryl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2aryl)-, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)- and combinations thereof; wherein n is at least 2 and wherein at least one of said diacidic monomer comprises at least about 50% by weight of the total composition, wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises a diacidic sulfamoyl (-SO_2NH_2) group.

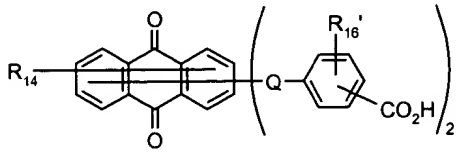
42. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 23 wherein said light absorbing monomer comprises two acidic groups independently selected from the group consisting of -CO_2H, SH, hydroxy attached to an aromatic ring, -CONHCO- (imide), -SO_2NHCO-, -SO_2NHSO_2-, 1(H)-1,2,4-triazolyl-3-yl-, imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl, pyrazolyl, -SO_2H attached to an aromatic ring, -NHSO_2R_5 and-SO_2NHR_5, wherein R_5 is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkyl; C_1-C_6 alkyl substituted with at least one group selected from C_1-C_6 alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio and C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl; C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl; aryl.

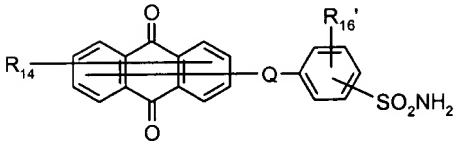
Claims 43 - 51 (Canceled).

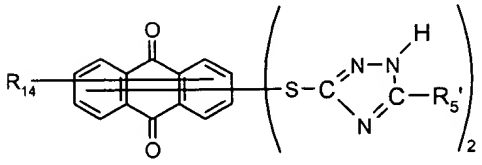
52. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A_1 comprises the residue of at least one diacidic light absorbing monomer selected

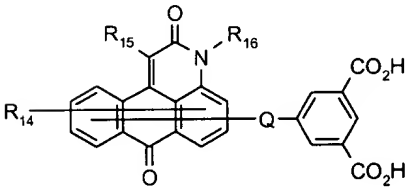
from the group consisting of the anthraquinone and anthrapyridone colorants having the structures:

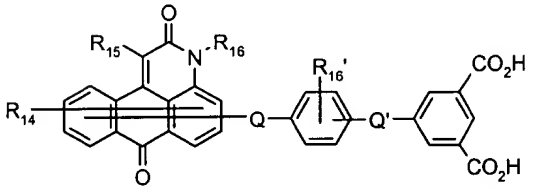


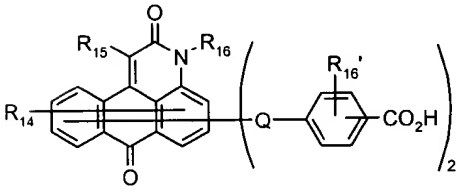


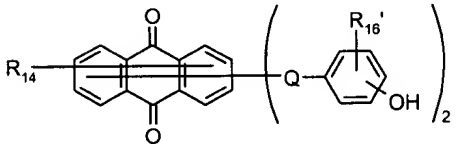


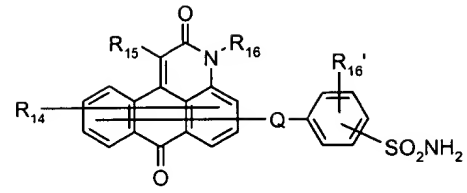


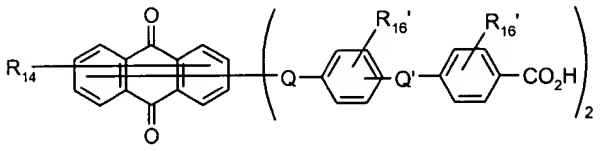


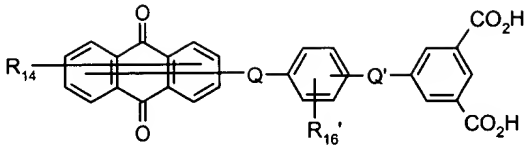


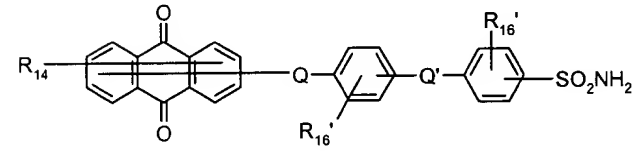


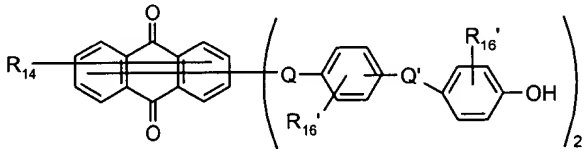




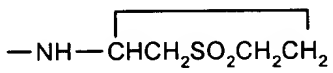








wherein R_{14} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and 1-4 groups selected from amino, C_1-C_{10} alkylamino, C_3-C_8 alkenylamino, C_3-C_8 alkynylamino, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylamino, arylamino, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, aryl, aroyl, C_1-C_6 alkanoyl, C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, NHCO C_1-C_6 alkyl, NHCOaryl, $NHCO_2$ C_1-C_6 alkyl, $NHSO_2$ C_1-C_6 alkyl, $NHSO_2$ aryl, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxy, arylthio, heteroarylthio, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, thiocyano, SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl, SO_2 aryl, -SO_2NH C_1-C_6 alkyl, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)$_2$, -SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl) aryl, CONH C_1-C_6 alkyl, CON(C_1-C_6 alkyl)$_2$, CON(C_1-C_6 alkyl) aryl, C_1-C_6 alkyl, furfurylamino, tetrahydrofurfurylamino, 4-(hydroxymethyl) cyclohexanemethylamino,



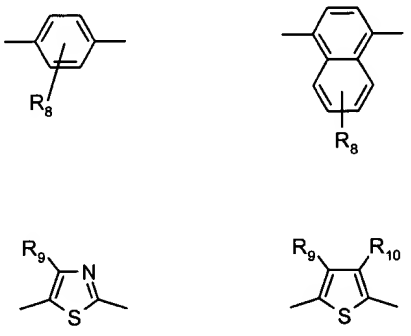
or hydroxy; Q and Q' are independently selected from the group consisting of-O-, $-N(COR_{10})-$, $-N(SO_2R_{10})-$, $-N(R_{10})-$, -S-, $-SO_2-$, $-CO_2-$, $-CON(R_{10})-$, $SO_2N(R_{10})-$, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, or C_1-C_{10} alkyl; R_{15} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, cyano, C_1-C_6 alkylamino, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, halogen, arylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroarylthio, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, aroyl or arylsulfonyl; R_{16} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl and aryl; R_{16}' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen and C_1-C_6 alkoxy; wherein each C_1-C_6 alkyl group and C_1-C_6 alkyl group which is a portion of another group may contain at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, cyano, chlorine, fluorine, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_8 cycloalkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylcyclohexyl, hydroxmethyl cyclohexyl, aryl and heteroaryl; with the provision that two acidic groups containing one acidic proton each or one acidic group containing two acidic hydrogens be present in the diacidic compounds.

53. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A_1 comprises the residue of at least one light absorbing monomer selected from the group consisting of azo, disazo, bis-azo and azomethine and having respectively the structures:

$$R_6\text{-}N{=}N\text{-}Z,\ R_6\text{-}N{=}N\text{-}R_7\text{-}N{=}N\text{-}Z,\ R_6\text{-}N{=}N\text{-}Y_1\text{-}N{=}N\text{-}R_6 \text{ and}$$
$$D{=}HC\text{-}N{=}N\text{-}Z$$

wherein R_6 is the residue of an aromatic or heteroaromatic amine which has been diazotized and coupled with a coupling component H-Z and is derived from an amine selected from the group consisting of aromatic and heteroaromatic amine classes selected from the group consisting of aniline, 1-aminonaphthalene, 1-aminoanthraquinone, 4-aminoazobenzene, 2-aminothiazole, 2-aminobenzothiazole, 3-amino-2,1-benzisothiazole, 2-aminothieno[2,3-d]thiazole, 5-aminoisothiazole, 5-aminopyrazole, 4-aminopyrazoloisothiazole, 2-amino-1,3,4-thiadiazole, 5-amino-1,2,4-thiadiazole, 5-amino-1,2,3-triazole, 2-amino-1,3,4-triazole, 2(5) aminoimidazole, 3-aminopyridine, 2(3) aminothiophene, 2(3) aminobenzo[b]thiophene, 2-aminothieno[3,2-b]thiophene, 3-aminothieno[2,3-c]isothiazole, 3-amino-7-benz-2,1-isothiazole, 3-aminobenzothienoisothiazole, 3-aminoisothiazole[3,4-d]pyrimidine, 5-amino- 1,2,3-triazole, 3(4) aminophthalimide and 5(6) amino-1,2-benzisothiazolon-1,1-dioxide with said aromatic and heteroaromatic ring systems being unsubstituted or substituted with one or more groups selected from C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_8

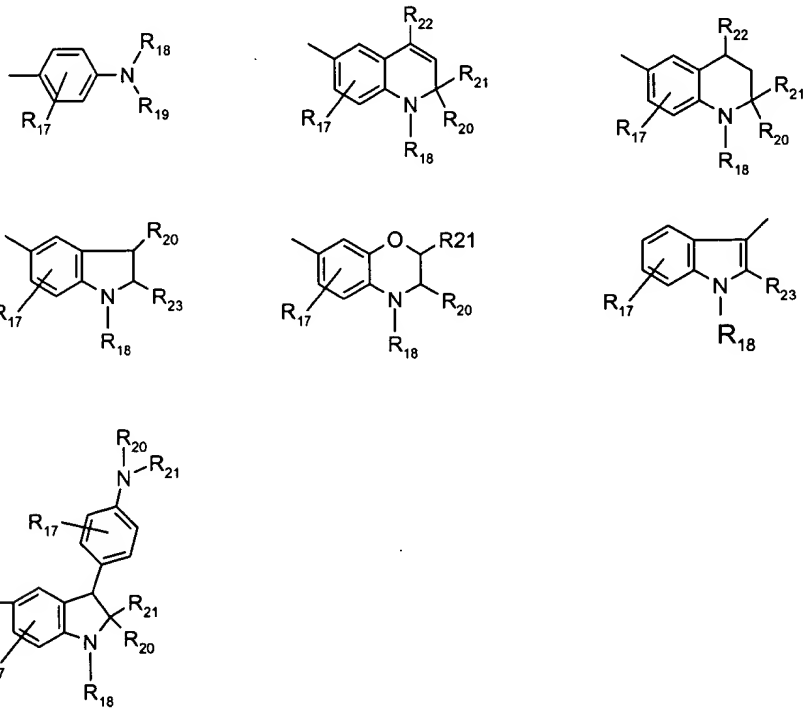
cycloalkyl, carboxy, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, formyl, C_1-C_6 alkanoyl, C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, dicyanovinyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkanoyl, thiocyano, trifluroacetyl, cyano, carbamoyl, -CONH-C_1-C_6 alkyl, CONHaryl, CON(C_1-C_6 alkyl)$_2$, sulfamoyl, SO_2NH C_1-C_6 alkyl, SO_2N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)$_2$, SO_2NHaryl, SO_2NH C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, CONH C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, aroyl, -$NHSO_2$ C_1-C_6 alkyl, -N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl, -$NHSO_2$ aryl, NHCO C_1-C_6 alkyl, NHCO C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, NHCOaryl, $NHCO_2$ C_1-C_6 alkyl, NHCONH C_1-C_6 alkyl, NHCONHaryl, N(C_1-C_6 alkyl)aryl, arylazo, heteroaryl, aryloxy, arylthio, C_3-C_8 cycloalkoxy, heteroarylazo, heteroarylthio, arylsulfonyl, tricyanovinyl, aryloxysulfonyl, C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonyl, trifluoromethyl, fluorosulfonyl, trifluoromethylsulfonyl, thiocyano, hydroxy, nitro or CH=D, wherein D is the residue of an active methylene compound selected from the group consisting of malononitrile, α-cyanoacetic acid esters, malonic acid esters, α-cyanacetic acid amides, α-C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-arylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-C_1-C_6 alkanoylacetonitriles, α-aroylacetonitriles, α-heteroarylacetonitriles, bis(heteroaryl)methanes, 1,3-indanediones, 2-furanones, benzo-2-furanones, naphtho-2-furanones, 2-indolones, 3-cyano-1,6-dihydro-4-methyl-2,6-dioxy (2H)-pyridines, benzo (b) thieno-3-ylidene propane dinitrile-5,5-dioxides, 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene) indanes, barbituric acid, 5-pyrazolones, dimedone, 3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1-benzothiophene-1,1-dioxides or aryl-C(CH_3)C=C($CN)_2$; wherein R_7 is a divalent aromatic or heteroaromatic radical selected from the group consisting of 1,4-phenylene, naphthalene-1,4-diyl, thiazol-2,5-diyl and thiophene-2,5-diyl:

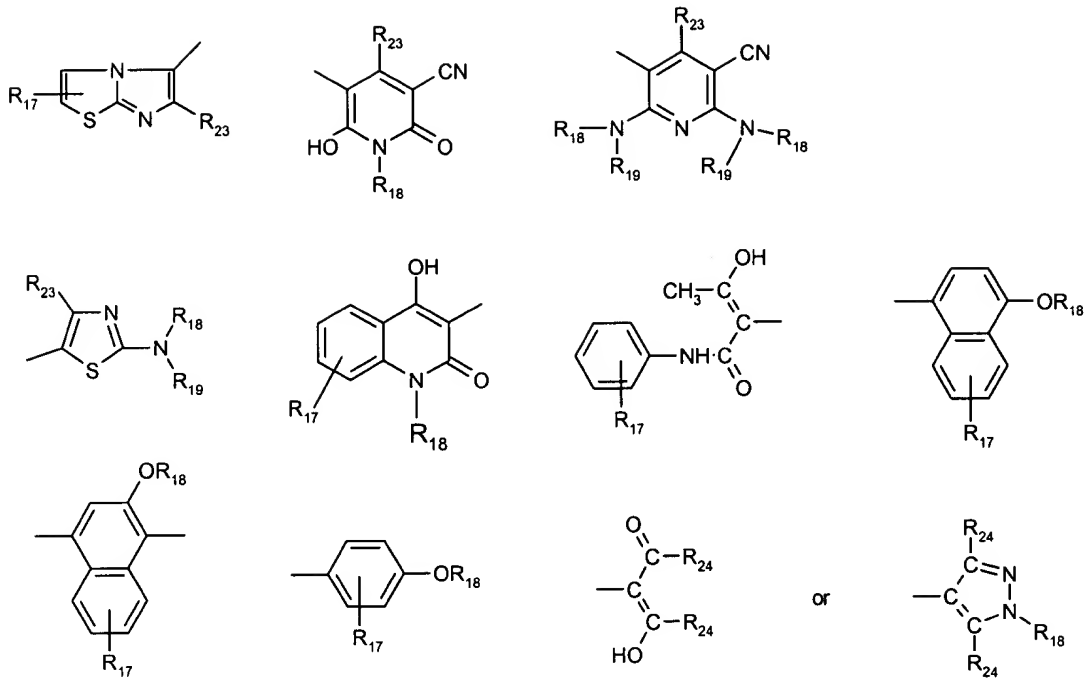


wherein R_8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or 1-2 groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, cyano, halogen, -NHCO C_1-C_6 alkyl, -$NHCO_2$ C_1-C_6 alkyl, -NHCO aryl, -NHCONH aryl or NHCONH C_1-C_6 alkyl; R_9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen, aryl, heteroaryl; R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, cyano, carbamoyl, aryl, arylsulfonyl, aroyl,

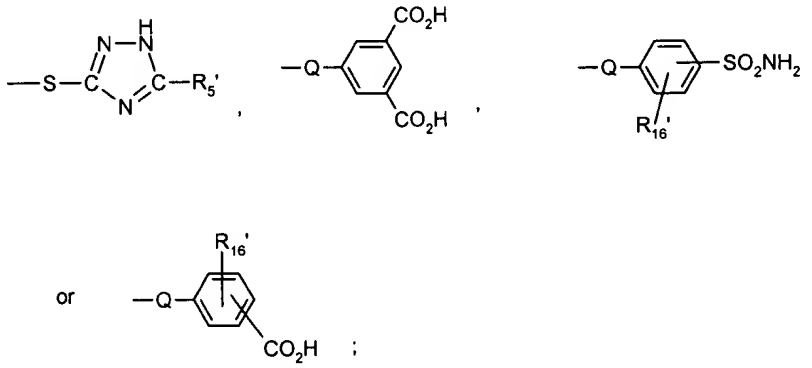
-CONH C_1-C_6 alkyl, or C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonyl; wherein Z is the residue of a coupling compound selected from the group consisting of electron rich compound classes of anilines, 1-aminonaphthalenes, 1,2-dihydroquinolines,1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines, benzomorpholines (3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4-benzoxazine), pyrazolones, pyrazoles, 3-cyano-6-hydroxy-2-pyridones, 2,3-dihydroindoles, indoles, 4-hydroxycoumarins, 4-hydroxy-2-quinolones, imidazo[2,1-b]thiazoles, julolidines (2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H,5H-benzo[ij]quinolizines), 1-oxajulolidines, 1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-4H-pyrrolo[3,2,1-ij]quinolines, 2,6-diamino-3 cyanopyridines, 2-aminothiazoles, 2-aminothiophenes, 5,5-dimethyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione (dimedone), phenols, naphthols, 2,4-pentanediones or acetoacetarylides; wherein Y_1 is the residue of a bis coupling component selected from the group consisting of anilines, 1,2-dihydroquinolines, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinolines, benzomorpholines (3,4-dihydro- 2H-1,4-benzoxazines), 3-cyano-6-hydroxy-2-pyridones, 2,6-diaminopyridines, 2,3-dihydroindoles, naphthylamines, 2-aminothiazoles, or a combination of these; with the provision that two acidic functional groups containing one acidic hydrogen each or a functional group containing two acidic hydrogen are present in the diacidic light absorbing monomer.

54. (Original) The composition of claim 53 wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of:

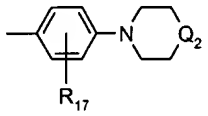




wherein R_{17} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 1-2 groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, -O C_2-C_6 alkylene-OH, O C_2-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkylene-OH, C_1-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,$NHCOR_{24}$, $NHCO_2R_{24}$, $NHCON(R_{24})R_{25}$, and $NHSO_2R_{25}$, wherein R_{24} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl, R_{25} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each C_1-C_{10} alkyl group in R_{24} and R_{25} may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, CO_2H, CO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl, cyano, hydroxy, succinimido, C_1-C_6 alkoxy,

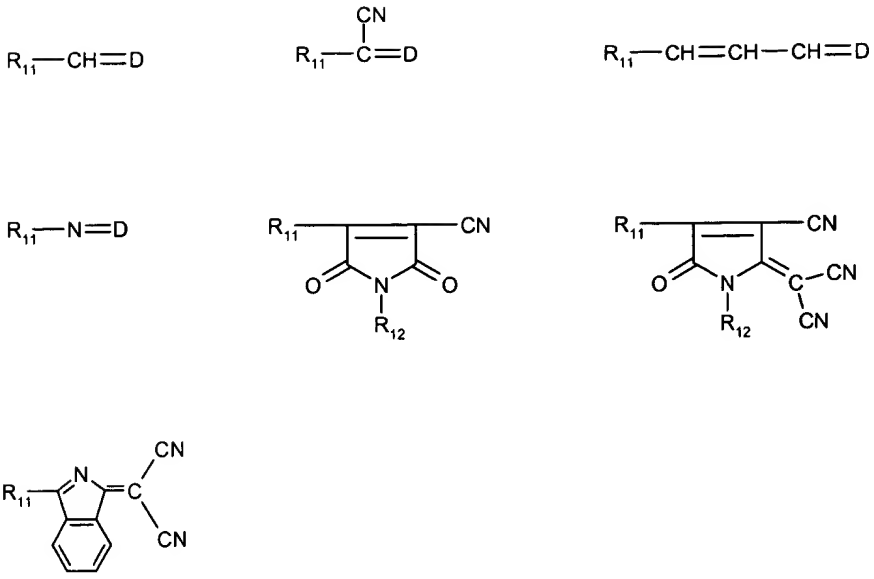


wherein R_5' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl or aryl; R_{16}' is selected from hydrogen or one or two groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen and C_1-C_6 alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of –O-, -N(COR_{10})-, -N(R_{10})-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO_2-, -CON(R_{10}), -SO_2(R_{10})-, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or C_1-C_{10} alkyl; R_{18} and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8 alkenyl, C_3-C_8 alkynyl and aryl or R_{18} and R_{19} may be combined with another element to which they are attached to form a radical Z having the formula



wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond, -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO-, -CO_2-, -N-(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(COC_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(CO aryl)-, or-N(SO_2 aryl); R_{20}, R_{21} and R_{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl; R_{23} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl.

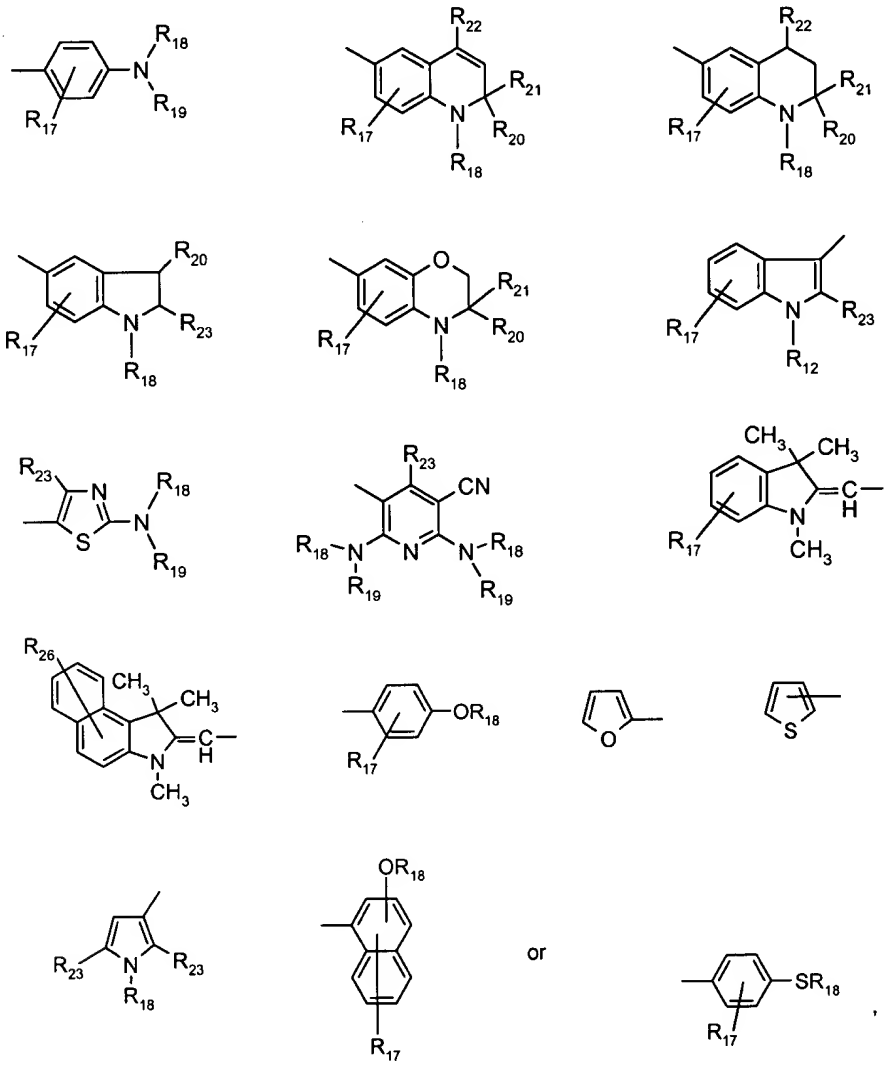
55. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A_1 comprises the residue of at least one light absorbing monomer selected from the group consisting of methine, arylidene, polmethine, azamethine, 3-aryl-2,5-dioxypyrroline, 3-aryl-5-dicyanomethylene-2-oxypyrroline and arylisoindoline and having respectively the structures:



wherein R_{11} is the residue of an electron rich aromatic compound selected from the group consisting of an aniline, 1-naphthylamine, 1,2-dihydroquinoline, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline, 1,3,3-trimethyl- 2-methyleneindole, 1,3-dihydro-2-methylene- 1,1,3-trimethyl-2H-benz[e]indole, imidazo [2,1-b] thiazole, benzomorpholine (3,4-dihydro-2H-1,4,benzoxazine), 2,3-dihydroindole, indole, 2-aminothiazole, julolidine (2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H, 5H- benz [ij] quinolizine, 1-oxajulolidine, 4H-pyrrolo [3,2,1-ij]-quinoline, phenol, naphthol, thiophenol, pyrrole, pyrazole, furan, thiophene, carbazole, phenothiazine or phenoxazine compound; R_{12} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 alkenyl, C_3-C_8-alkynyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, $(CH_2CH_2O)_{1-3}$ R_{13} and C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, wherein the C_1-C_6 alkyl groups may be substituted by at least one group selected from the group consisting of carboxy, C_1-C_6 carbalkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, cyano, hydroxy, chlorine, fluorine, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl; R_{13} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxy or C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy; wherein D is the residue of an active methylene compound selected from the group consisting of malononitrile, α-cyanoacetic acid esters, malonic acid esters, α-cyanacetic acid amides, α-C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-arylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-C_1-C_6 alkanoylacetonitriles, α-aroylacetonitriles, α-heteroarylacetonitriles, bis(heteroaryl)methanes, 1,3-indanediones, 2-furanones, benzo-2-furanones, naphtho-2-furanones, 2-indolones, 3-cyano-1,6-dihydro-4-methyl-2,6-dioxy (2H)-pyridines, benzo (b) thieno-3-ylidene propane dinitrile-5,5-dioxides, 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene) indanes, barbituric acid, 5-pyrazolones, dimedone, 3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1-benzothiophene-1,1-dioxides or aryl-$C(CH_3)C=C(CN)_2$, with the proviso that two

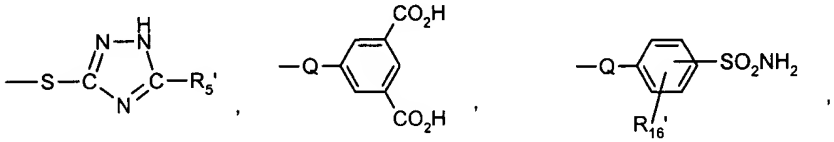
acidic functional groups containing one acidic hydrogen each, or a functional group containing two acidic hydrogens are present.

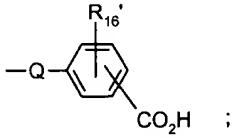
56. (Original) The composition of claim 55 wherein R_{11} is selected from the group consisting of the electron rich aromatic residues corresponding to the structures:



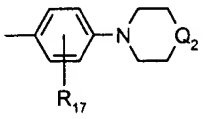
wherein R_{26} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or a group selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, CO_2H, C_1-C_6 alkyl or C_1-C_6 alkoxy; wherein R_{17} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, and 1-2 groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, -O C_2-C_6 alkylene-OH, O C_2-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkylene-OH, C_1-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy, C_1-C_6

alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,$NHCOR_{24}$, $NHCO_2R_{24}$, $NHCON(R_{24})R_{25}$, and $NHSO_2R_{25}$, wherein R_{24} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl, R_{25} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each C_1-C_{10} alkyl group in R_{24} and R_{25} may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, CO_2H, CO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl,



or  ;

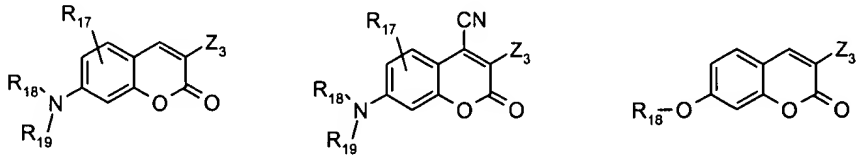
wherein R_5' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl or aryl; R_{16}' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, one or two groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen and C_1-C_6 alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of –O-, -$N(COR_{10})$-, -$N(R_{10})$-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO_2-, $CON(R_{10})$, $SO_2(R_{10})$-, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or C_1-C_{10} alkyl; R_{18} and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8 alkenyl, C_3-C_8 alkynyl and aryl or R_{18} and R_{19} may be combined with another element to which they are attached to form a radical Z having the formula



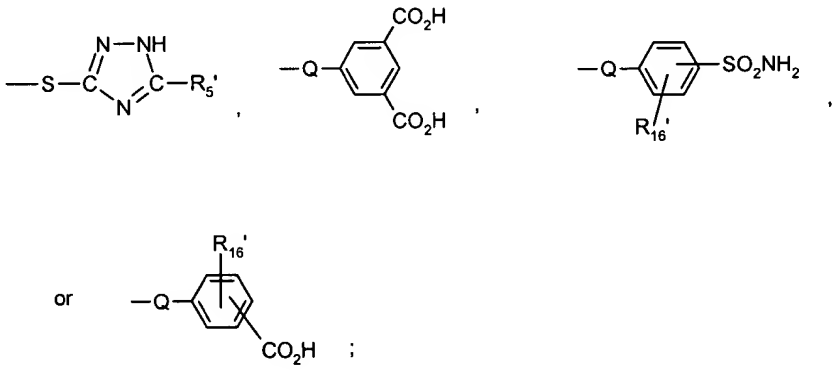
wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond, -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO-, -CO_2-, -N-(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(CO C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(CO aryl)-, or-N(SO_2 aryl); R_{20}, R_{21} and R_{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of

hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl; R_{23} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl.

57. (Previously amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the light absorbing portion of A_1 comprises a residue of at least one diacidic coumarin compounds selected from the group consisting of the structures

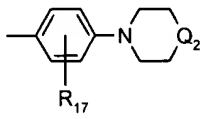


wherein Z_3 is selected from the group consisting of cyano, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aryl, heteroaryl, formyl, aroyl, C_1-C_6 alkanoyl or-CH=D, wherein R_{17} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 1-2 groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, -O C_2-C_6 alkylene-OH, O C_2-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkylene-OH, C_1-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,$NHCOR_{24}$, $NHCO_2R_{24}$, $NHCON(R_{24})R_{25}$, and $NHSO_2R_{25}$, wherein R_{24} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl, R_{25} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each C_1-C_{10} alkyl group in R_{24} and R_{25} may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, CO_2H, CO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl, cyano, hydroxy, succinimido, C_1-C_6 alkoxy,



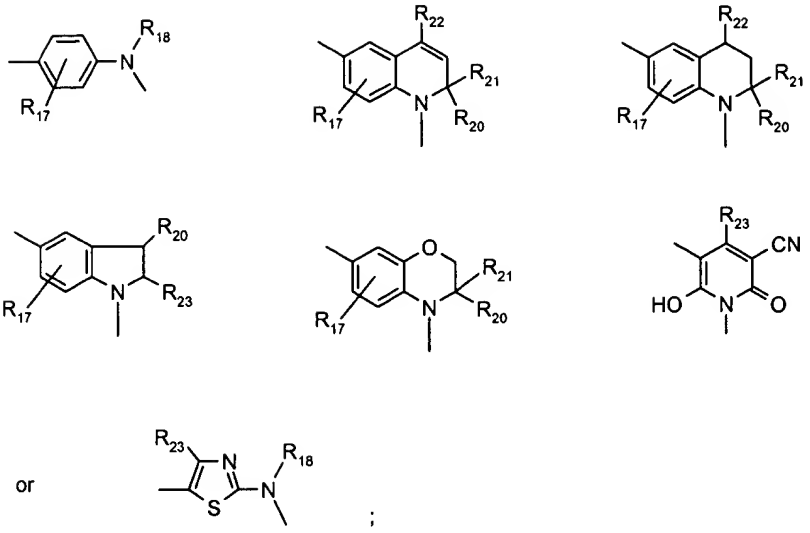
wherein R_5' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl or aryl; R_{16}' is selected from hydrogen or one or two groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen, and C_1-C_6

alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of –O-, -N(COR_{10})-, -N(R_{10})-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO_2-, CON(R_{10}), SO_2(R_{10})-, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or C_1-C_{10} alkyl; R_{18} and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8 alkenyl, C_3-C_8 alkynyl and aryl or R_{18} and R_{19} may be combined with another element to which they are attached to form a radical Z having the formula



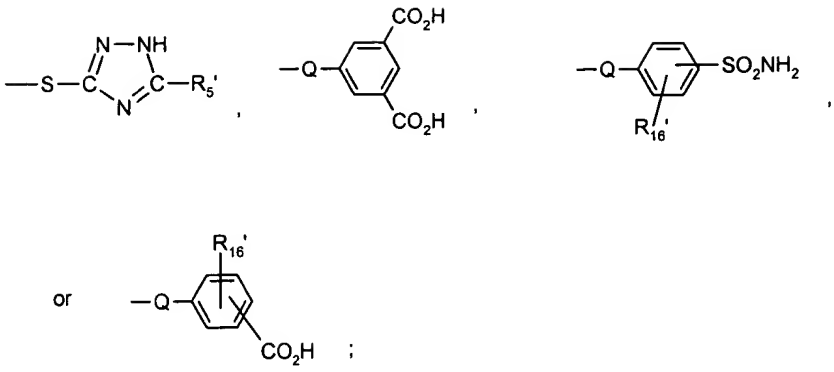
wherein Q_2 is selected from the group consisting of a covalent bond, -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO-, -CO_2-, -N-(C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(CO C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)-, -N(CO aryl)-, or-N(SO_2 aryl); R_{20}, R_{21} and R_{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of or C_1-C_6 alkyl; R_{23} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl; wherein D is the residue of an active methylene compound selected from the group consisting of malononitrile, α-cyanoacetic acid esters, malonic acid esters, α-cyanacetic acid amides, α-C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-arylsulfonylacetonitriles, α-C_1-C_6 alkanoylacetonitriles, α-aroylacetonitriles, α-heteroarylacetonitriles, bis(heteroaryl)methanes, 1,3-indanediones, 2-furanones, benzo-2-furanones, naphtho-2-furanones, 2-indolones, 3-cyano-1,6-dihydro-4-methyl-2,6-dioxy (2H)-pyridines, benzo (b) thieno-3-ylidene propane dinitrile-5,5-dioxides, 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene) indanes, barbituric acid, 5-pyrazolones, dimedone, 3-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1-benzothiophene-1,1-dioxides or aryl-C(CH_3)C=C($CN)_2$, with the proviso that two acidic functional groups containing one acidic hydrogen each, or a functional group containing two acidic hydrogens are present.

58. (Original) The composition of claim 54 wherein the light absorbing portion of A_1 comprises the residue of at least one bis-azo light absorbing monomer wherein the bis coupling component Y_1 is represented by the structure Z_1-L_1-Z_2, wherein Z_1 and Z_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of



or ;

wherein, L_1 is bonded to the nitrogen atom of Z_1 and Z_2; wherein L_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_2-C_{12} alkylene, C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene, arylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene- C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_1-C_4 alkylene-arylene- C_1-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-O-arylene-O- C_2-C_4 alkylene, $(C_2$-C_4 alkylene $O)_{1-3}$ C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene- S- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-SO_2- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-N(SO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl)- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-N(SO_2 aryl)- C_2- C_4- alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene- OCO_2- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene- O_2C-arylene-CO_2- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-O_2C- C_1-C_{12} alkylene-CO_2- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-O_2C- C_3-C_8 cycloalkylene-CO_2- C_2-C_4 alkylene, C_2-C_4 alkylene-NHCO- C_2-C_4 alkylene and C_2-C_4 alkylene-$NHSO_2$- C_2-C_4 alkylene; wherein R_{17} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, 1-2 groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_1-C_6 alkylthio, -O C_2-C_6 alkylene-OH, O C_2-C_6 alkylene-C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_6 alkylene-OH, C_1-C_6 alkylene- C_1-C_6 alkanoyloxy, halogen, carboxy, C_1-C_6 alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl,$NHCOR_{24}$, $NHCO_2R_{24}$, $NHCON(R_{24})R_{25}$, and $NHSO_2R_{25}$, wherein R_{24} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl, R_{25} is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or aryl wherein each C_1-C_{10} alkyl group in R_{24} and R_{25} may be further substituted with one or more groups selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, aryl, aryloxy, arylthio, CO_2H, CO_2 C_1-C_6 alkyl, cyano, hydroxy, succinimido, C_1-C_6 alkoxy,



wherein R_5' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl or aryl; R_{16}' is selected from hydrogen or one or two groups selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen and C_1-C_6 alkoxy; Q is selected from the group consisting of –O-, -N(COR_{10})-, -N(R_{10})-, -S-, -SO_2-, -CO_2-, CON(R_{10}), SO_2(R_{10})-, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, aryl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or C_1-C_{10} alkyl; R_{18} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, unsubstituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, C_3-C_8 alkenyl, C_3-C_8 alkynyl and aryl; R_{20}, R_{21} R_{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of or C_1-C_6 alkyl; R_{23} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, heteroaryl or aryl.

Claims 59 - 129 (Canceled).

REMARKS

The following remarks are submitted to address the issues raised in the Advisory Action mailed September 22, 2003, and to address the issues raised in the Office Action mailed June 19, 2003.

Applicants specifically request non-entry of the amendments requested in the response under 37 CFR 1.116 filed August 19, 2003. The listing of claims in this response should replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-26, 28-42, 52-58, and 109-129 are pending in the present application.

Claims 59-108 were canceled in a preliminary amendment filed December 29, 2000.

Claims 27 and 43-51 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claims 109-129 were added by amendment filed April 14, 2003, and have been canceled.

Claims 23-25, 35, 38, 42, 109-111, 114, 117, 121, and 122 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by US 5,243,021 to Langer et al.

Claims 26, 28, 36, 37, 39, 40, 52-58, 112, 113, 115, 116, 118-120, and 123-129 stand objected to as indicated below.

Claims 1-22 and 29-34 are allowable over the prior art.

No new matter has been added.

Consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

Claim Amendments and Cancellations

Claim 23 has been amended to recite "[a] colored light absorbing composition having the formula . . . ." Support for the amendment can be found on the following pages of the application: p. 1, ln. 17-22; p. 2, ln. 33-36; p. 11, ln. 23-28; p. 31, ln. 12-17, and pp. 36-38.

Claim 24 has been amended to recite a thermoplastic polymer blended with at least one "colored" light absorbing linear polymeric composition of claim 23. Support for this amendment can be found on the following pages of the application: p. 1, ln. 11-22.

Claim 28 has been amended to be consistent with claim 25, from which claim 28 depends.

Claims 26, 36, 37, and 39-41 have been rewritten in independent form.

Claims 109-129 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

Claims 23, 24, 25, 35, 38, 42, 109-111, 114, 117, 121, and 122 — 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Because claims 109-111, 114, 117, 121, and 122 are canceled, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Langer is moot.

The rejection of claims 23, 24, 25, 35, 38, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Langer is respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to colorants and to methods for preparing light absorbing polymeric compositions which because of their light absorbing properties result in the polymeric compositions that exhibit a particular color. The polymer compositions can be blended with a thermoplastic causing the thermoplastic to also become colored.

Langer relates to water-dispersible copolymers which contain a UVA light-absorbing monomer, a UVB light-absorbing monomer, and a hydrophilic monomer component. The copolyesters may be used in fabric care compositions, personal product compositions, and in other applications recognized by those skilled in the art.

Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite "[a] colored light absorbing composition having the formula . . . ." Langer does not disclose colored polymer compositions. Langer discloses polymer compositions made from stilbene (col. 18, ln. 33-54), and planar aromatic and alkane esters (col. 18, ln. 55-59), neither of which are colored. Further, there is no suggestion or teaching in Langer to use colored UV absorbing polymer compositions.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 23 is not anticipated by the UV absorbing polymers disclosed in Langer. As claims 24, 25, 35, 38 and 42 depend from claim 23, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 24, 25, 35, 38 and 42 are also patentable over Langer.

Claims 26, 28, 36, 37, 39, 40, 52-58, 112, 113, 115, 116, 118-120, and 123-129 - Objection

Because claims 112, 113, 115, 116, 118-120, and 123-129 have been canceled, the objection to these claims is moot.

The objection to claims 26, 36, 37, 39, 40, and 52-58 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim is respectfully traversed.

Claim 28 ultimately depends from claim 23. Applicants submit that claim 28 is patentable based on its dependency from amended claim 23.

Claims 26, 36, 37, 39, and 40 have been rewritten in independent form.

Claims 52-58 ultimately depend from claim 26. Applicants submit that claims 52-58 are patentable based on their dependency from independent claim 26.

Claim 41

Applicants note that the status of claim 41 is not explicitly stated in the Office Action mailed June 19, 2003.

Claim 41 has been rewritten in independent form, and Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 41 is not anticipated by the references cited by the Examiner in this case.

Examiner's Remarks in Advisory Action

Contrary to the Examiner's statement in the Advisory Action, Langer does not disclose thermoplastic polymers blended with light absorbing polymers. Langer discloses the use of cationic polymers such as "copolymers of dimethylaminoethylmethacrylate and

acrylamide." (col. 11, ln. 22-29). Langer also discloses the use of crosslinked polyacrylates. (col. 12, ln. 30-32). The cationic polymers and crosslinked polyacrylates disclosed in Langer are not thermoplastic polymers.

While Applicants disagree with the Examiner's statement that Langer discloses thermoplastic polymers blended with light absorbing polymers, in order to expedite the examination of the application, Applicants have amended claim 24 to include the limitation of colored from claim 23.

Fee

The fee of $770.00 for Request for Continued Examination is included with this response.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, a favorable Office Action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Sam Rollins at (336) 607-7432 to discuss any matter relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Oct. 17, 2003

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Reg. No. 52,180

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